

4. (amended) The plasmid of claim 1, wherein the SK primer sequence element comprises the sequence (SEQ ID NO: 5):

5' - GATCCACTAGTTCTAGAGCG-3'.

5. (amended) The plasmid of claim 1 wherein SK oligonucleotides with end modification can be bound thereto by a detectable element that is detectable by electron microscopy.

6. (amended) The plasmid of claim 5, wherein the detectable element is selected from the group consisting of boron, silicon, iron and manganese.

7. (amended) A method of analytical electron microscopy comprising the step of adding the plasmid of claim 1.

8. (amended) A host cell transformed with the plasmid of claim 1.

9. (amended) The host cell of claim 8, wherein the host cell is *E. coli* JM110.

10. (amended) A test kit for use in electron microscopy comprising:

- host *E. coli* JM110 bacterial cells suitable for replicating the plasmid of claim 1;

and

- a single-stranded plasmid comprising 2x, 7x, 14x, 21x and 27x repetitive SK primer sequence elements.

**Add the following claims:**

11. (new) The host cell of claim 8, wherein the cell is *E. coli*.

12. (new) A reagent for electron microscopy comprising pBluescript KS(+) derivative; and a SK oligonucleotide with end modification by a detectable element, wherein the element is detectable by electron microscopy.